



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Koichiro KOMATSU et al.

Attn: OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS

Notice of Allowance Mailed: March 19, 2004

Confirmation No.: 7937

Group Art Unit: 2877

Application No.: 10/661,620

Examiner: R. Rosenberger

Filed: September 15, 2003

Docket No.: 105173.01

For: SURFACE INSPECTION METHOD, SURFACE INSPECTION APPARATUS, AND
RECORDING MEDIUM AND DATA SIGNAL FOR PROVIDING SURFACE INSPECTION
PROGRAM

**REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF
CONSIDERATION OF DISCLOSED INFORMATION**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449 was filed in the above-captioned patent application on September 15, 2003. The Examiner appears to have inadvertently failed to place his initials adjacent to one of the references identified on the Form PTO-1449. This reference was submitted and considered in the parent application as well.

The Examiner is requested to initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the subject Form PTO-1449. For the convenience of the Examiner, a copy of that form is attached.

Should there be any questions concerning this communication, please telephone the undersigned at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

Mario A. Costantino
Registration No. 33,565

MAC/ccs

Date: April 2, 2004

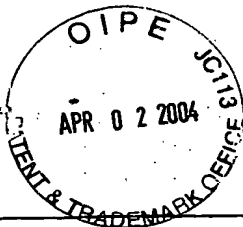
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION**

Please grant any extension
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Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 105173.01		Rule 33(b) Continuing Application of U.S. Application No. 09/481,503, filed January 12, 2000 10/66,620	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Koichiro KOMATSU et al.			
				FILING DATE September 15, 2003		GROUP	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
<i>M</i>		5,497,234	3/1996	Haga	356	237.5	
<i>12</i>		6,166,393	12/2000	Paul et al.	356	237.5	
<i>12</i>		6,201,601	3/2001	Vaez-Iravani et al.	356	237.4	
<i>20</i>		6,222,624	4/2001	Yonezawa	356	237.4	
<i>h</i>		4,881,268	11/1989	Uchida et al.	356	71	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
		8-75661	03/1996	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER	<i>Richard Rosen</i>				DATE CONSIDERED 3/12/04		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: September 15, 2003